



Economic Commission for Africa

A service of the UN system-wide support to the African Union and its NEPAD Programme

NEPAD TODAY

Every Wednesday

The articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of UNECA or NPCA

African Economic Conference opens with call for green growth in African countries

United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, said building green economies in Africa will be an important element in preserving the environment and humanity's common heritage.

Mr. Janneh made the remarks during the opening ceremony of the African Economic Conference (AEC) on Tuesday 25th October in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The four-day conference is an annual event organised by ECA, in collaboration with the African

Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

The opening ceremony, which was chaired by Mr. Emmanuel Nnadozie, director of ECA's Economic Development and NEPAD Division; was also addressed by the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Meles Zenawi, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Jean Ping and the director of UNDP's regional bureau for Africa, Mr. Tegegnetwork Getu.

Mr. Janneh defined the green economy as

Continued on page 2

Climate change significantly threatens Africa's economic growth – Prof. Nnadozie



Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Director of Economic Development and NEPAD Division, ECA

An economic expert of the Economic Commission says climate change is a major threat to Africa's economic growth. Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, who is the Director of Economic Development and NEPAD Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa told journalists at a Sensitization Workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Monday October 24, 2011 that, climate change is considered by most experts as the most important threat to the continent.

Continued on page 2

Chief of Section
Kwabia Boateng

Editor

Yinka Adeyemi

Production Assistant
Meseret Arega

Continued from page 1

AEC opens with...

improving economic and social wellbeing while ensuring that production processes and consumption patterns do not further damage the environment.

“It is now evident to all concerned that mankind needs to move from old resource-intensive methods of growth in which progress has been at the expense of the environment to one in which productivity is boosted by using and managing natural resources more efficiently and effectively,” he said.

The Ethiopian Prime Minister, Mr. Meles Zenawi, stressed that green growth of utmost importance to Africa due to its abundant renewable energy sources. He said that since African economies are largely agrarian-based, any action on green growth must first target the agriculture sector.

Source: Special to ECA, <http://www.uneca.org/>

Continued from page 1

Climate change...

“The impact of climate change is huge on the economy and the people,” he said as can be seen in the shrinking of natural resources such as the Lake Chad, and sea erosion at Keta in Ghana.

He said the devastating impact of climate change is already costing Africa a lot already. The requirements in terms of financial requirement for climate change adaptation programmes in Africa he said is said to be around \$20 billion to \$30 billion per year. “Mobilizing this resources is a great challenge and even if the resources are available, accessing is a problem,” he said.

He called on African countries to do two things by instituting policies to adapt to climate change and adopting an economic transformation strategy that does not worsen the problem, ” he said.

For full story: <http://www.ghanabusinessnews.com>

NEPAD trains experts in the collection of Science, Technology and Innovation indicators

The NEPAD Agency in collaboration with the Cameroonian Ministry of Scientific Research and Innovation (MINRESI) organised a training workshop on the collection of Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (STI) in Yaounde, Cameroon from 3 to 6 October. The workshop was the first in a series of workshops aimed at developing African capacity to collect and use STI indicators, under the African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII) initiative which is funded by SIDA.

The workshop which was opened by Mrs Madeleine Rebecca Etame Ebelle, Secretary General (Permanent Secretary) of the Minis-

try of Scientific Research and Innovation, on behalf of the Minister- Hon. Madeleine Tchuinte attracted 65 participants representing 22 out of the 28 African countries currently participating in the ASTII Initiative. In her opening remarks, Mme Ebelle encouraged the participants to use the workshop as an opportunity to improve the Science, Technology and Innovation systems in Africa through the production of reliable statistics and indicators.

The training was essential in setting the stage for the process leading to the publication of the African Innovation Outlook in 2012. Participants were trained in methodologies for the measurement of Research and experi-

Continued on page 3

South Africa under pressure to implement CAADP

South Africa is under pressure to start implementing the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD, which wants the country's endorsement as the one with the most advanced agricultural production and value chain on the continent.

The programme — a project of former president Thabo Mbeki — was endorsed by African heads of state at the 2003 African Union (AU) summit held in Mozambique. It aims to accelerate agricultural growth, improve food security and strengthen environmental resilience in Africa.

According to Nepad CEO Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Nepad representatives met last week with a South African interministerial team, which included national departments, provincial government, agriculture representatives and development funding institutions such as the Land Bank. Its aim was to kick start SA's co-ordinated CAADP-related intervention in agriculture development.

Dr Mayaki describes the meeting as a "stakeholders sensitisation seminar", marking the first real engagement between Nepad and the South African government to discuss concrete proposals for the programme. The proposals endeavour to establish a road map to fast-track CAADP implementation, and bolster agricultural policy implementation within the CAADP framework, he says.

It is also hoped that the meetings will yield a guide for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, so that it has a "clear set of actions" to bring value to SA's value chain, while accelerating the country's agri-

cultural development.

In establishing the programme, Nepad set ambitious targets of eliminating hunger and reducing poverty through agriculture, through addressing policy and capacity issues across the sector and the continent. It premises its objectives on four pillars: extending the area of agricultural production under sustainable land and water management systems; improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access; increasing food supply and reducing hunger; and investing in agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption programmes.

For full story: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=156758>

Continued from page 2

mental development (R&D) and Innovation; Understanding of R&D and Innovation definitions and concepts in relation to STI Indicators; R&D and Innovation data collection and frameworks; processing R&D and innovation survey data and analysis and dissemination; and making linkages between STI indicators, science policies and development.

For full story: www.nepad.org

Upcoming Event

- 6th African Economic Conference 2011
25-28 Oct 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- NEPAD Infrastructure Conference 2011
26 -27 Oct 2011, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Regional Forum on Science Technology and Innovation in Africa, Nov 3 2011 - Nov 4 2011
, South Africa

Please let us hear from you

How useful do you find NEPAD Today? Are there other issues you would like us to address? Please send an email to: maregaz@uneca.org